

Gateway Regional Urban Sprawl Meeting

August 26, 1998
IDOT Building
Collinsville, Illinois

Agenda

Meeting Objectives

- Confirm the participants' interest in taking action through a coordinated regional effort.
- Confirm the priorities for action.
- Establish a process that will allow the participants to coordinate their efforts effectively.
- Take steps toward implementing a coordinated effort to address the priority issues.

Wednesday, August 26, 1998

12:45 p.m.	Registration
1:00 p.m.	Introductions
1:20 p.m.	Review Agenda
1:30 p.m.	Review Priority Issues and Confirm Interest in Undertaking a Coordinated Regional Effort to Address Issues <i>Desired outcomes: Provide participants with an opportunity to review the priority issues identified through interviews with representatives from the Metro-East area and investigate the interest of the group in working together to address priority issues.</i>
2:00 p.m.	Break
2:15 p.m.	Break Out Sessions <i>Desired Outcome: Provide participants with an opportunity to work together on developing actions to address priority urban sprawl issues.</i>
4:15 p.m.	Break
4:30 p.m.	Group Presentations <i>Desired Outcome: Groups report on the work accomplished in the break-out sessions.</i>
4:50 p.m.	Next Steps <i>Desired Outcome: Determine whether to continue meeting. If so, identify date, time, place and obtain input for next meeting's agenda.</i>
5:00 p.m.	Adjourn

Ground Rules

Focus on task

Listen and respect others

No side conversations

No grandstanding

Participate in decision making

Be on time

Speak up

**Agenda
for
Break-out Sessions**

2:15 Explain Proposed Process for Developing Action Plans

2:30 Brief Presentations on Priority Issues Identified by Area Residents

<p>Break out Session on Stormwater Management</p> <p>1) Dick Worthen Metro-East Watershed Council <i>What is the problem with stormwater management and why hasn't it been solved yet?</i></p> <p>2) Beth Darr St. Clair County Soil & Water Conservation District <i>Emergency Watershed protection Program and Emergency Wetland Reserve program</i></p> <p>3) Deborah Roush U.S. Army Corps of Engineers <i>Ecosystem Restoration and Flood Control Project</i></p> <p>4) Tom McSwiggen Illinois EPA <i>Proposed Stormwater Regulations</i></p>	<p>Break out Session on Preservation of Open Space and Farmland, Transportation, Urban Centers</p> <p>1) David Boyd East-West Gateway Coordinating Council <i>Transportation</i></p> <p>2) Rita Backstrom City of Alton <i>Brownfield Redevelopment</i></p> <p>3) Ed Weilbacher Southwestern Illinois Resource Conservation & Development <i>Preservation of Open Space</i></p>
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2:45 Problem Identification
Brainstorming effort to develop a working list of the components of each priority issue.

3:30 Select the Priorities for Developing Action

3:50 Assign Homework
Select at least one priority and develop a potential list of activities to address the problem.

4:00 Prepare Presentations

4:15 Break

Process for Developing Actions

- Identify problems and their component parts
- Select priorities
- Select the first priority problem for purpose of developing actions
- Brainstorm actions to address each problem
- Evaluate the actions in order to select the best approaches

Three criteria for selection may include:

- Which actions will most likely lead to successful implementation?
 - Which actions will provide the greatest return on your investment?
 - Which actions will provide "quick wins" for the region?
- Assign volunteers for each activity in action plan
 - Repeat process for next priority

Stormwater Management

Breakout Session

List of Participants

Kathy Andria
Donna Beauchamp
Jean Bowers
Catherine Copley
Beth Darr
Joe Effertz
Thomas McSwiggin
James Jones
Jack Norman
Joe Parente
Bill Polka
Deborah Roush
Rufus Williams
Dick Worthen

Preservation of Open Space & Farmland/Transportation/Decline of Urban Centers

Breakout Session

List of Participants

JoAnn Joshu Agne
Andy Anderson
Steve Baker
Rita Backstrom
Anjali Bhat
Henry Bieniecki
Gordon Blum
David Boyd
Larry L. Brown
Michael Cordes
Shirley Dodd
Jim Farrell
Dennis Fenske
William Gagen
Terry Harp
Geraldine Jenkins

Florine Johnson
Jon-Paul Kohler
Rebecca Perkins
Randy Pierce
David Rahe
Michael Rogers
Paul Ruesch
Gene Schmittgens
Ted Shekell
Susan Stitt
Ron Tedesco
Mark Tranel
Anthony D. Vinson, Sr.
Kevin W. Ward

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Meeting Summary

I. Introductions

The meeting began with introductions. Those in attendance introduced themselves. A meeting attendance list is included in Attachment I.

Jerome King, Gateway Regional Team Manager from U.S. EPA, Region 5 thanked the participants for attending the first Gateway Regional Urban Sprawl meeting and highlighted the importance of continued participation. King explained that U.S. EPA's role in this effort is to lead the development of a strengthened relationship among federal agencies and between those agencies and communities on urban and metropolitan issues in the Gateway area. The goals of the Gateway Initiative are to improve the quality of life and protect the natural resources within the Gateway community and to build sustainable community involvement in local environmental issues. King went on to explain that the Delta Institute is working with U.S. EPA through a cooperative agreement to help facilitate the first Gateway Regional Urban Sprawl Meeting and follow up meetings.

The participants also heard from David Boyd with the East-West Gateway Coordinating Council (EWGCC). Mr. Boyd briefly described the regional urban sprawl project EWGCC is undertaking which is intended to involve local government on both sides of the Mississippi River in the development of regional planning principles.

II. Review Agenda

Facilitators reviewed the meeting objectives, ground rules, and agenda. A copy of the meeting objectives, agenda, and ground rules are included in Attachment II.

III. Review Priority Issues and Confirm Interest in Undertaking a Coordinated Regional Effort to Address Issues

In order to help U.S. EPA identify critical urban sprawl issues, the Delta Institute (formerly Clean Sites) conducted telephone interviews with several people in the Metro-East area. The facilitators from the Delta Institute reviewed the urban sprawl issues identified by community members during those interviews. The purpose of this review was to share the concerns raised by community members with those attending the meeting and to confirm that the issues identified were priorities on which the group was interested in working.

Generally, four priority issues were identified by community members during the interviews.

These **priorities** were:

- **stormwater management;**
- **preservation of open space and farmland;**
- **transportation, including the development of highways and public transit systems;**
and
- **the decline of urban centers.**

Specifically, the **stormwater management** problems that were raised included:

- Flooding in the bottoms caused by the increased amount of impervious surfaces in the bluffs.
- Erosion from the bluffs decreases the capacity of the waterways in the bottoms to accommodate stormwater.
- As little as one inch of rain causes the creeks to overflow in Monroe County.
- As a result of flooding, one citizen reported sewage backups in their home.
- People wanted to know if there's a correlation between stormwater, flooding and the quality of their drinking water.

The following is a list of proposed ideas, solutions and recommendations given during the interviews to help address the problems associated with stormwater management.

- Educate people on the relationship of impervious surfaces to increased stormwater runoff.
- Hire a media company to develop a campaign to educate people about the need for sedimentation control measures.
- Establish sedimentation control measures that will control erosion associated with a 100 year storm event.
- Need to standardize stormwater control regulations to eliminate disadvantages to cities and counties that have adopted appropriate stormwater control measures.
- Need more resources for stream bank stabilization to ensure that clean water is going to the bottoms as opposed to water with more silt.
- Use existing resource plans that have been written for all of the watersheds to guide solutions for stormwater management.

Regarding the **preservation of open space and farmland**, several people commented that open space has value and, during the interviews, concerns were raised about the in-fill and lack of planning on a scale that will preserve or protect the characteristics that traditionally have made the Metro-East area an attractive place to live. Examples of the comments that were made include:

- Open space is being lost.
- Do we want to continue developing land at the current rate?
- How do we provide for growth without using up our resources?
- Are there economic impacts associated with growth? If so, what are they?
- What is the current rate of growth in Madison, St. Clair, and Monroe County?

- Growth in Monroe County is mostly out from the cities, but the County is not experiencing exponential growth.
- Most development in St. Clair County is coming from people who are moving out of the cities.
- The areas between Belleville, O'Fallon, and Fairview Heights are filling up. Land is rapidly being consumed without a corresponding increase in population.
- Since the construction of the bridge at Alton in 1995, there has been a 43% increase in residential housing in the Godfrey/Alton area.
- The Metropolitan area population is stagnant, but the geographic boundaries are expanding. We are seeing massive amounts of residential construction, subdivisions and shopping areas.

People also raised concerns that development is occurring on farmland and forested areas. Specific comments included:

- We are losing some prime farmland. For example, the new airport was built on farmland.
- Leave the floodplains as farms. Two-thirds of the world's horseradish crop is grown in the floodplains which are prime agricultural lands.
- Farmland is being consumed for development. If we continue at the current rate-what happens? Would there be a food shortage?
- Should there be a farmland preservation program? We need to start talking about fair and equitable ways to evaluate development projects.

Another priority identified during the interviews was **transportation**. The concern for people raising the issue of transportation seemed to be whether the region should invest in mass transit or build more highways. Examples of the comments that were provided include the following:

- Transportation is a problem. It is causing congestion. Transportation issues follow development instead of helping to guide development.
- Transportation policy is related to energy and land use, revitalization of urban centers, and growth in suburban areas.
- There is a new 4 lane state highway being built between Waterloo and Columbia in Monroe County. We expect growth along the highway. A frontage road will be required.
- Metro Link is having a synergistic affect on urban centers. We expect small spheres of urban development around the Metro Link stops.
- Metro-Link could be a way to tie outer growth areas to downtown St. Louis.
- Metro-Link could be a catalyst for smart growth.
- A light rail system is being developed in our area, but existing tracks are being used. The rail will not take any new space or require additional land.
- Transportation can take people in impoverished areas to work.

The **decline of urban areas** and the challenge of redevelopment also was raised as a concern. Comments received on this issue included:

- As people leave city neighborhoods, the money for infrastructure leaves, the tax base

declines, property values decline, etc. There is also a racial component to sprawl. When integration occurs there is a trend for whites to move farther out.

- Housing stock in Belleville is older which has not been attractive to younger families.
- With the expansion of the public transit line, we hope to see more environmentally friendly folks looking at the older, urban neighborhoods.
- Some people noted that in the inner city areas, neighborhood organizations are making a difference. These local initiatives need to be re-enforced and supported.

During the interviews, concerns were voiced about the rate of growth in the Metro-East area and whether growth is occurring too fast to accommodate septic, water supplies and traffic needs. Regarding development, some said it is good for the tax base, so it is important to work together as a region. Several said development should occur without destroying the area's resources. A lot of people recognized that without long-range planning and taking steps to preserve the character of the area, development has the potential to ruin living here.

The following is a list of proposed ideas, solutions and recommendations provided during the interviews which relate to the issues of the preservation of open space and farmland, transportation, and the decline of urban centers:

- Need to decide what can be developed and what can't.
- Need to educate decision-makers about the value of long-term planning and the impacts of development, both good and bad.
- Need to stop making decisions based upon politics.
- Need to develop fair and equitable ways to evaluate development projects.
- Need to figure out how to get credible information on growth rates and economic impacts of development, both positive and negative.
- Need to educate developers on the value of open space.
- Need to update comprehensive plans every 5 years.
- Need to coordinate development between the cities and county.
- Need to create a conservation district.
- Need to create a farmland preservation program.
- Need to reward people who stay in the cities with tax breaks.
- Need to figure out ways to attract young families back to neighborhoods.
- Need to involve schools in development decisions.
- Need to use the transit system as a tool to help cure urban sprawl.
- Need more rational land use policies, including public transportation and liveable communities.

After reviewing the results of the interviews, meeting participants discussed the following:

- The people interviewed were those who have previously participated in Gateway issues or meetings and others recommended by those being interviewed.
- We need balance to address these issues. We should invite industrial representatives.
- We should invite developers.
- There are tremendous racial and economic disparities.

- We need to consider environmental justice issues to balance with open space issues. Consider the social components associated with the preservation of open space issues.

Following the discussion, the facilitators confirmed with those in attendance that these are issues they are interested in and want to work on together to try and solve.

IV. Break Out Sessions

Following the review of the results of the interviews, the group broke out into the following two sessions:

- A. Stormwater Management; and
- B. Preservation of Open Space and Farmland, Transportation, and Decline of Urban Centers

Each of the break out sessions began with introductions, a review of the agenda for the break-out session, review of the proposed process for developing actions to address priority problems, and brief presentations. Copies of the attendance list for the break-out sessions, agendas for the break-out sessions, and the proposed process for developing actions are included in Attachment III.

A. Break Out Session-Stormwater Management

Presentations were provided by:

1) Dick Worthen, Metro East Regional Stormwater Committee

Stormwater is a major problem in the Metro East area because of the relationship between increasing areas of impervious surfaces from new development in the uplands as well as the bottom lands and the increased speed, quantity of runoff. Siltation and sedimentation are problems. Excess water is a problem. Scouring is a problem. The "bathtub" effect of being behind 500 year levees is a problem.

2) Beth Darr, St. Clair County Soil & Water Conservation District

The USDA/NRCS is sometimes required to do preventative work using funds from the Emergency Watershed Protection Program and the Emergency Wetland Reserve Program. The St. Clair County Soil & Water Conservation District is currently working on a prevention project that requires the purchase of flood easements.

The current focus of the USDA/NRCS in St. Clair County is in the American Bottoms along Mullins Creek Slough. The NRCS is planning to secure easements in the area. The goal is to provide an area for stormwater management through flood control, thus alleviating some of the burden on cities and homes further down from the bluffs.

3) Deborah Roush, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is undertaking a an ecosystem restoration and urban flood control project in the Metro-East area. A handout discussing the project is provided in Attachment IV.

4) *Tom McSwiggin, Illinois EPA*

Tom McSwiggin discussed the proposed stormwater regulations. Copies of handouts explaining the proposed regulations can be found in Attachment V.

Following the presentations, the participants engaged in a brainstorming effort to identify the problems associated with stormwater management. The results of this effort are as follows:

- Need an agency to finance improvements on a watershed basis-no agency has legal authority.
- Lack of funding.
- No one agency is responsible for regulating development with respect to flooding.
- When it rains we get water and sedimentation and other pollutants where we don't want it.
- Lack of uniform ordinances in counties and cities for stormwater management/enforcement and for sedimentation control measures.
- Laws are not enforced to keep property owners from polluting other properties.
- Lack of sedimentation control.
- Lack of streambank stabilization.
- Over reliance on regulations and enforcement.
- Lack of comprehensive planning.
- Land use is not an expression of comprehensive public policy.
- Can't just make arbitrary decisions about property rights/uses or public vs. private.
- Land use decisions currently made don't require land use to be sustainable.
- TIF and economic incentives make it impossible for people to make wise choices (i.e. SWIDA).
- Generally - economic interests are in the bluffs and flooding problems are in the bottoms where people are economically disadvantaged.
- Difficult to balance economic and environmental wellness.
- Need balance of environmental costs vs. benefits.
- Lack of education in stormwater.
- Lack of collaboration.
- Moisture ridden buildings are a problem (sewage backups, CSOs).
- Lack of impact fee assessments which correspond to the extent of a development's impacts.
- Need jobs as well as responsible attitude incurred by the public.
- Need a public relations educator to educate on the costs of sprawl and provide research on ordinance models used in other cities.
- The costs of development are not paid by those who benefit from it-developers leave problems behind.
- Rapid development and lack of corresponding detention due to impervious surfaces.

- Information on stormwater management is available, but the local county soil and water conservation districts cannot guarantee developers use the information on detention.
- Inadequate sampling data.

After voting, the group chose to further define the following problem during the session:

- Lack of uniform ordinances in counties and cities for management/enforcement of sedimentation control measures and stormwater.

Possible ideas for addressing this problem included:

- Developing a uniform ordinance between counties and cities.
- Developing a county or regional authority.
- Having a local sponsor for improvements using federal funding.
- Reviewing information on the uniformity of ordinances.

B. Break Out Session-Open Space and Farmland, Transportation, and the Decline of Urban Centers

Presentations were provided by:

1. David Boyd, East West Gateway Coordinating Council

Mr. Boyd outlined the regional trends in vehicle miles traveled and population. A brief outline of his presentation highlights is included in Attachment VI.

2. Rita Backstrom, City of Alton

Ms. Backstrom described the three projects currently being undertaken to revitalize Alton's urban center. The projects include improvements along the Alton Riverfront District, the revitalization of the Hunterstown neighborhood to increase home ownership, and the Owens-Illinois Brownfield redevelopment that will bring a new business park and job to the area.

3. Ed Weilbacher, Southwestern Illinois Resource Conservation and Development

Mr. Weilbacher identified the significant natural resource features in the Metro-East area, including the Mississippi River, a large contiguous forest tract, and Karst topography. Mr. Weilbacher also described the Greenways project and presented the Greenways map.

Following the presentations, the participants engaged in a brainstorming effort to identify the problems associated with the preservation of open space and farmland, transportation, and the decline of urban centers. The results of this effort are as follows:

- Land in this area historically has been cheap.
- Impacts of sprawl include stormwater runoff, sedimentation, farmland loss.
- Need public education on the costs of sprawl.
- There are cost trade-offs with development decisions.
- Market drives the sprawl.

- We subsidize many of the choices-need to rethink those.
- Let people know what the choices are.
- Elected officials make decisions.
- Politicians respond to local people, make political decisions.
- Site plan development has little or no public input.
- Public involvement in decision-making may need improvement.
- Municipalities can use infrastructure to control or direct growth.
- Infrastructure allows for new design-design affects function.
- People follow good infrastructure.
- Transportation corridor program/install the infrastructure.
- Who gets infrastructure first? Is infrastructure built first then people follow it or do the people move first and then infrastructure follows?
- Transportation and industry are linked.
- Need more public transportation.
- Public transportation provides a network, moves people to jobs.
- Metro-Link plans for development at stations.
- Use caution on transit extension. Transit itself can cause sprawl.
- People drive faster on wider streets. Need to narrow the streets so people drive slower.
- Need regional planning that communities can stick to.
- We can have our own set of best practices.
- In O'Fallon-building on acre lots is fashionable.
- Bigger lots don't pay for infrastructure.
- What is fashionable needs to be redefined.
- Don't forget, we operate under a free market society.
- Try regional revenue sharing to balance the impacts of growth, ex. O'Fallon & East St. Louis.
- Not doing a good job of planning, developing policies and allocating resources to enhance investment in urban centers.
- Need better comprehensive plans.
- Need a policy on directing investments.
- The Metro-East area is a floodplain.
- Do not allow any development in the floodplain.
- The flood of 1993 caused floodwater to reach Highway 157.
- Some areas, i.e. wetlands, should not be allowed for development.
- Green space requirements need to be part of development.
- The area lacks a mechanism to acquire open space, for example: City of Madison and Mosentone Island.
- Need to create positive incentives for change to occur that will enhance brownfield programs. For example, use tax credits to provide incentives for redevelopment, zoning, infrastructure to support development, clean-up levels, environmental justice/neighborhood issues-how do you attract people back to urban neighborhoods.
- Sometimes brownfield policy thwarts redevelopment. For example the conflict between air quality and brownfields (ozone nonattainment areas create regulatory disincentives to

development).

- Need to develop strategies to address air quality v. brownfield redevelopment.
- Don't need brownfield databases.
- Funding is obstacle to redevelopment of brownfields.
- Grants for redevelopment require up-front costs to develop the grant application. Project may not be funded.
- Can't get money for investigations, only administrative support.
- Developers will pay for some of the up-front costs on the easy sites, the problem is with the secondary sites.
- TIF intended to promote brownfield redevelopment, but now is used as a bartering tool.
- Mill Creek is the most successful example of redevelopment in the U.S.
- Recommend viewing the video, "Back From the Brink."
- The Metro-East area enjoys a great deal of diversity which contributes to the quality of life. We should preserve and enhance its assets to maintain the quality of life needed to attract new residents, businesses and travelers.
- Need to know why people are moving away from the urban centers. What quality of life issues do we need to address to make urban centers more attractive?
- Need housing to encourage people to return.
- Historic housing (for example, Victorian homes) brings people back.
- Good schools bring and retain residents.
- Older people will return to urban centers, but want a whole block.

V. Group Presentations and Next Steps

The meeting participants reconvened to report on the outcomes of their respective break out sessions. Following the reports, it was agreed that another meeting would be scheduled for Thursday, November 5, 1998 at 1:00 p.m. at the IDOT Building, if it is available. It was also agreed that the facilitators should prepare a questionnaire to distribute to the meeting participants. The questionnaire would be designed to elicit information which would help focus the issues and interests of the group. The questionnaire would be sent out and completed before the next meeting.

U.S. EPA noted that a web site existed for Gateway which U.S. EPA maintains. This site might be a good place to share information and learn more about urban sprawl issues. The site is <http://www.epa.gov/region5/gateway>.

Participants requested that a mailing list for those who attended the meeting be included with the minutes. Participants also requested that information about the Delta Institute be included with the meeting minutes.

Participants were requested to complete and return the evaluation form to the facilitators and the meeting adjourned.

Gateway Urban Sprawl Meeting

List of Participants

Wednesday, August 26, 1998

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Gateway Urban Sprawl Meeting

List of Participants

Wednesday, August 26, 1998

IDOT Building

Collinsville, IL

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Gateway Urban Sprawl Meeting

Wednesday, August 26, 1998

Evaluation Responses

1. Were the meeting objectives clear?

Yes 22

No 4

Somewhat 2

2. Did this meeting meet the stated objectives?

Yes 15

No 8

Somewhat 5

Please provide any comments or suggestions you have on how we might have structured the meeting to meet the stated objectives.

Comments:

- It was done as well as could be expected for such a large issue.
- Thought structure was appropriate.
- This issue is so huge and complex that meeting the objectives in 1 meeting is impossible. You made a good start.
- It's tough. General topic areas were, perhaps, too broad. But it was a good first stab.
- The format was fine, but it might have generated so much information that a lot of issues might be sidelined.
- You obviously could not have hoped to solve our problems in an afternoon. The Stormwater Committee has met once a month for about 5 years to do this and has not gotten very far with it. Please continue to be interested in the community's problems but do recognize that a large investment in physical improvements will be necessary to deal with stormwater problems in the community.
- I guess I was a little confused by "stormwater management" being the other side of the coin, so to speak. Obviously it is one of the outcomes of sprawl but not exactly a "sister issue" which is how it seemed to be billed.
- It would have greatly helped to have results of interviews (issues of concern, suggestions) on paper for participants to refer to throughout the meeting, or even before the meeting.
- Present facts about problem area through presentations so that audience perceptions/opinion about major issues do not throw off the conversation.
- Should have used the nominal group process more formally. - i.e. write down ideas and then verbalize.
- Limit objectives - focus on "less"
- The objectives turned out to be too ambitious - open space, farmland, transportation and

urban centers provided too broad a range of issues to establish a defined set of problems and then establish priorities.

- Be more direct and open minded to the problems.
- Somewhat slanted the objectives / do not blame presenter but participants did a lot of exchanging.
- Stick more closely to the prescribed sequence of steps in developing action plans.
- Continue to follow the group request to settle the selected choices.
- The group took a while to grasp the process.
- More comprehending to a particular subject. More focused on one thing.
- A more specific agenda, less digression from the topic focus.
- Too much expected in one session. Brain dead.

3. Did the break out sessions try to accomplish:

Too Little

Just Enough

Too Much

4

20

Comments:

- Good start.
- It's a big issue. Discussion had to be general.
- Based upon the stated objectives. Subsequent meeting will be interesting.
- A process was not established to allow participants to coordinate efforts (per meeting objectives). Setting priorities would have required a methodology (voting, consensus, etc)
- I kept trying to figure what can this workshop accomplish by sitting around the table.
- Just not enough time for different issues.
- Too much at one time / maybe one subject at a time or small groups work on a different issue.
- Neither group was able to decide on the proper level.
- Breakout kind of controlled their own destiny.
- Need better up-front definition of what we are trying to achieve.
- Can't get into solutions without first determining extent of problem.

4. Did this meeting meet your expectations? If not, why not?

Comments:

- Yes.
- Yes.
- Yes.
- Yes.
- Yes.

- Yes.
- Yes! I feel that this is a good start.
- Yes, considering the immensity of the task.
- Yes. The dialog was begun on a critically important issue.
- For the most part.
- I'm not really sure... My sense is that it was a good first step. My perspective is that the most valuable aspect of the meeting was getting to meet many of the other "players" in Metro-East.
- Yes and no. Certain issues were avoided because they were racial issues.
- Yes, I expected there to be more questions than answers.
- Sort of, any consensus that comes out of a meeting like this will be compromised and watered down.
- Mechanisms for impact or influence or political power structure are vague unrealistic.
- Was unsure what to expect.
- I had no expectations.
- I need time to digest!
- I thought there would be more interest in farmland loss.
- I think we got a little lost - losing focus of urban sprawl and stormwater in our group.
- I feel that we can discuss all we want but unless someone who is in a policy changing position is there, what is the point?
- Need to clearly define by next meeting the specific end product. The discussion was very interesting and I learned new things. However, what will be beyond the discussions?
- The facilitation process provided for discussion but not for movement toward decisions. There are many techniques for establishing priorities such as give everybody attending the session three stick-up dots and get this attached to the recorded issue sheets to show participants priorities.
- Sort of didn't tell me what I can do!!

5. Was the meeting location convenient?

Yes 24

No

Comments:

- Sort of
- Room lay-out was a bit odd for this type of process.

6. How helpful were the facilitators?

<u>Not Helpful</u>		<u>Somewhat Helpful</u>		<u>Very Helpful</u>
1	2	3	4	5
		4	9	12

Comments:

- Excellent.
- Glad it wasn't my responsibility.
- Didn't do good job of controlling grand standing and discussions of items during brainstorming.

7. Please provide any comments or suggestions you have for improving future meetings.

Comments:

- Thank you for a well prepared session. The session reinforced the value of collaborative efforts.
- We need to continue meeting to come up with some specific steps to take.
- None at this time.
- Keep going.
- Find a big round table. Smaller groups. Like I said, this was a very good first start meeting.
- When you make a list of people in attendance, please indicate what organization or group they are affiliated with.
- Invite St. Clair County Transit District. Metrolink Extension District for input/factual information about the issues/problems we are facing. Elected officials, U of I, regulatory officials.
- Invite Mayors, Aldermen, City Planners, people in this category.
- Continue on focusing on more specific elements-wish list, random listing of problems has been done too much.
- As we progress the issues will narrow. I am not too concerned about the progress made today.
- Clarification of overall purposes and development of a cohesive organizations to address the objectives.
- Too many issues. - Should be narrow down so they could be addressed properly and honestly. Focus on the main issue - (Race) etc...
- More strongly encourage discipline in break out sessions.
- We need to look at the brainstorming session products for further consultation.
- Are we trying to define quality of life issues? If so, let us know. Generalities should come before specifics.

- Unfortunately not enough time was allotted, but it is such a big task to handle and it would get very overburdening if it was much longer.
- Stick to schedule. - Control individuals from dominating conversations - have smaller groups.